Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-10 OIC-02 /133 W 094850

R 171435Z JUL 75 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4699 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK USMISSION EC BRUSSELS USMISSION OECD PARIS

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, EGEN, UNGA

SUBJECT: 59TH ECOSOC-AGENDA ITEM 10 (7TH SPECIAL SESSION)

REF: A. GENEVA 5518 B. STATE 167679

1. PROVISIONAL DRAFT G-77 AGENDA FOR 7TH SPECIAL SESSION TRANSMITTED REFTEL (A) WAS PRODUCT OF G-15 WITH MEXICO,Y YUGOSLAVIA, AND INDIA PLAYING LEADING ROLE IN DRAFTING. DRAFT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY G-27, AND, ON JULY 16, PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL TO THE G-77 MEETING AS A WHOLE. WE HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED THAT AT THAT SESSION, THE AFRICAN GROUP OBJECTED TO THE DRAFT ON GHE GROUNDS THAT (A) THEY HAD NOT BEEN CONSULTED OR INVOLVED IN ITS PREPARATION AND (B) THE DRAFT WASNOT EXPLICIT ENOUGH IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPMED COUNTRIES, A SUBJECT OF PRIME INTEREST TO THEM. THE AFRICAN GROUP STATED THAT THE PAPER COULD GO FORWARD AS G-27 CONFIDENTIAL

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DRAFT BUT THAT IT COULD NOT RPT NOT BE PRESENTED AS A

G-77 POSITION. MEETING ADJOURNED WITHOUT A DECISION BEING TAKEN ON THE DRAFT. REGIONAL GROUPS OF G-77 HAVE BEGUN A SERIES OF MEETINGS IN EFFORT TO COME UP WITH AN AGREED PAPER. IN THIS CONTEXT, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD REPEATEDLY THAT THE ENTIRE DOCUMENT IS NEGOTIABLE.

- 2. ECOSOC DEL HAS PREVIOUSLY COMMENTED ON THE DISARRAY AMONG THE G-77 WITH REGARD TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE 7TH SPECIAL SSSION REFLECTING, INTER ALIA, A SPLIT BETWEEN NEW YORK AND GENEVA REPS, EFFORTS OF MODERATES TO RUN THE SHOW AND AVOID CONFRONTATION AND LACK OF CLEAR SIGNALS FROM ALGERIA. IN THIS LATEST ROUND, ONE OF INTERESTING POINTS IS THAT AFRICAN STATES ARE CONCERNED THAT ACTION TAKEN WITH REGARD TO THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION SHOULD NOT FOUR UP THEIR BILATERAL REAIONTS, ESPECIALLY WITH THE US. (IN THEIR INTERPRETATION, THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH IN MILWAUKEE CERTAINLY LENT CREDENCE TO THAT CONCERN.)
- 3. IMPORTANT POINT IS THAT DOCUMENT TRANSMITTED REFTEL
 (A) HAS NO RPT NO STATUS, THAT G-77 HAS GONE BACK TO
 DRAFTING BOARD AND THAT THEY HAVE INDICATED TO US WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE THE FINAL DOCUMENT. IF THESE NEGOTIATIONS
 ARE IN FACT TO TAKE PLACE AND IF WE ARE TO HAVE A MEANINGFUL INPUT INTO THE PROCESS, WE MUST BE ABLE TO GO BEYOND
 SIMPLY NEGATIVE REACTIONS TO THEIR PROPOSALS, ADMITTEDLY
 CONTENTIOUS, AND TO COME FORWARD ON OUR OWN WITH PROPOSALS.
 IN THE EYES OF THE G-77, AT STAKE IS OUR WILLINGNESS TO
 ACTUALLY ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS AND OUR FAILURE
 TO DO SO WOULD ONLY CONFIRM THE CONTENTION OF THE READICALS
 THAT LITTLE OR NOTHING IS TO BE GAINED BY A NON-CONFRONTATIONAL APPROACH.
- 4. THESE DEVELOPMENTS SHOULD ALSO BE SEEN IN CONTEXT OF ECOSOC. THE SPRING ECOSOC SESSION PRODUCED LITTLE OR NOTHING OF IMPORTANCE. LACK OF PROGRESS ON THE MOST CRUCIAL QUESTION BEFORE THE SESSION, I.E., PREPARATIONS FOR THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, AND A GROWING SENSE THAT NOTHING CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED HERE HAVE LED MANY TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF CURTAILING THIS ESSION. CONFIDENTIAL

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ECOSOC PRESIDENT AKHUND (PAKISTAN) HAS, HOWEVER, CLEARLY STATED THAT HE WILL NOT DO SO AND ARGUES THAT THE FAILURE OF ECOSOC TO DEAL WITH THIS QUESTION KWOULD REPRESENT A DEFEAT OF THE G-77 MODERATES AND LEAVE THE FIELD CLEAR FOR THE FAR MORE RADICAL NAG FONMINS AT THEIR MEETING IN LIMA. DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, AGREEMENT DRAFT, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 17 JUL 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GENEVA05654

Document Number: 1975GENEVA05654
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750247-0475

From: GENEVA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750748/aaaabqir.tel Line Count: 113 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION IO Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 GENEVA 5518, 75 STATE 167679 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: CunninFX

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 23 APR 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <03 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>

Review Markings:

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Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: 59TH ECOSOC-AGENDA ITEM 10 (7TH SPECIAL SESSION)

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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006